

Eifel Times

Vol. 37, Issue 12

Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

March 28, 2003

1143 Eifel AM

Open Line call-in show

Wednesday at 9 a.m.

Topic: Veteran's Affairs benefits
Call DSN 329-4590

News Briefs

Family member discussions

The Sits and Bits discussion group offers Team Eifel members a place to discuss deployment concerns. For more information about this 52nd Fighter Wing Family Support Center and Chapel Services sponsored activity, call Mr. Ed Gavagan at 452-9491 or Chaplain (Col.) Carl Andrews at 452-6711.

American Red Cross

The American Red Cross provides free emergency contact service for deployed members. For information about this service, visit the American Red Cross Web site at <https://www.americanredcross.com>, click on the "services for the military" link.

Housing office contacts

The 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron Housing Office has temporarily relocated to trailers located in the housing office parking lot and phone numbers have changed. Call the customer service desk at 452-7133, off-base housing referral office at 452-6757, housing management assistance office is at 452-6802 and housing inspection office at 452-6996.

Clinic closed

Medical group services close for training Thursday. Services normally offered on weekends are still available. For urgent care, visit the Bitburg Annex hospital emergency room.

Facilities working group news

A facilities working group meeting takes place Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. in the building 119 conference room.

Tier Two meeting

Tier Two, a professional NCO organization, meets for a pot luck luncheon April 10 at noon in the Spangdahlem AB building 128, third floor break room. Call Tech. Sgt. Howard Bailey at 452-7233 for more information.

Operation Iraqi Freedom updates

The Air Force has a special Operation Iraqi Freedom Web site highlighting the service news and photos from forward-deployed locations covering Air Force support of the war in Iraq. The site is in addition to daily Air Force-wide news featured at www.af.mil. Access the site by clicking on the Operation Iraqi Freedom link on the Air Force Link Web site or by going directly to www.af.mil/news/opscenter/index.shtml.

Incirlik evacuees

Spangdahlem Air Base sponsors 46 military families moved out of Turkey due to the war.

Read "Base Plays Host To Incirlik Evacuees," on Page 4

Lock and load

22nd Expeditionary Fighter Squadron weapons load crew members Airman 1st Class Michael Giles, left, and Staff Sgt. David Ross, direct a jammer driver as they load a guided bomb on a Spangdahlem Air Base F-16CJ before a mission Monday. The F-16CJ's are assigned to a forward-deployed air base in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Staff Sgt. Derrick Goode

Spangdahlem FSC reaches out with day for deployed families

Spouses and children enjoy activities designed to entertain and inform

By 2nd Lt. Gerardo Gonzalez
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office Office

Free entertainment, food and morale calls were among the highlights of the family support center sponsored deployed family day held March 22 at the Bitburg Annex FSC facility.

Saturday's event was the second one of its type this year and drew over 150 people, including families who arrived recently in the Spangdahlem Air Base area after being evacuated from Turkey.

"It's really a day for those of us whose spouses are deployed," said Ms. Deborah Plumley, 52nd Medical Group key spouse. "It's a day for us to be with one another and talk."

There is more than meets the eye about the reason behind deployed family day according to Ms. Jane Allen, FSC director.

"We want to make sure people are okay and they know we're here for them," the director said.

Setting a day aside to bring in families of deployed members allows for the opportunity to "take a note of the pulse of the community."

Specialists from other base help organizations, such as the chaplain's office, were among the invitees, the director said. They mingled with the crowd and interacted with families allowing them to gauge the overall well-being of those left behind by deployed spouses.

Families also had the opportunity to enjoy the myriad of cost-free benefits the FSC offers in their state-of-the-art facility.

A computer room was available for family members to send and receive e-mail from loved ones, Allen said. Family members were also given the choice to contact loved ones at deployed locations via a speakerphone set up in a homey living room style area.

Between 20 and 30 volunteers cooked, helped run various

Hack and Slash, the Shakespearean duo from the Armed Forces Entertainment organization amuse the crowd during deployed family day held at the Bitburg Annex Family Support Center Saturday.

activities and gave parents a break by taking their children off their hands for a while, the director said. Two age-based playrooms were set up where kids ran around, played games or watched television under the watchful eye of volunteers.

One of those volunteers was Airman 1st Class Chad Sells, 52nd Communications Squadron communication-computer system operator. He saw this as an opportunity to not only help the families, but also do something he enjoys.

Nichole Gonzalez

See FSC, Page 2

Wing officials bring down the house at Bitburg

Nixed Bitburg Annex housing renovations plan opens way for ground-floor entry unit construction

By Lt. Col. Kurt Kaisler
52nd Civil Engineer Squadron commander

For more than a year 52nd Fighter Wing officials have pursued approval to change from renovating existing stairwell units to replacement with ground floor-entry duplex and multiplex units. On Feb. 5, this goal took a step forward with Headquarters U.S. Air Forces in Europe support to change the look of Spangdahlem Air Base housing.

The strategy incorporates Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) direction to house members off-base first. Wing officials have worked with major command civil engineers and Air Staff housing members to determine the number of units that will become the on-base housing requirement here. A housing requirements market analysis has been under way since January. Wing officials expect the results in mid-April.

While the base waits for the results of the analysis, officials have taken steps to make sure wing members have the best housing possible. Based on the new OSD standards and approval from Air Staff and the wing commander, a \$21 million project to renovate stairwell housing at Bitburg Annex is cancelled. This decision allows the wing to provide the required housing units at Spangdahlem AB.

Another initiative under way is the demolition of several stairwell units. A March 18 ceremony formally recognized the demolition of Spangdahlem AB building 426 and Bitburg Annex buildings 21 and 22. This progress is thanks to proactive footwork done in the past year, which provided accurate demolition costs and justification to demolish the buildings and replace with new ground floor units.

What's next?

First, the wing needs Air Staff and Congressional approval to proceed, but it's already busy designing for the future. Officials will share more information as they acquire more definition on timelines, scope and schematics. While the wing's journey isn't quite complete, officials anticipate construction to begin next spring.

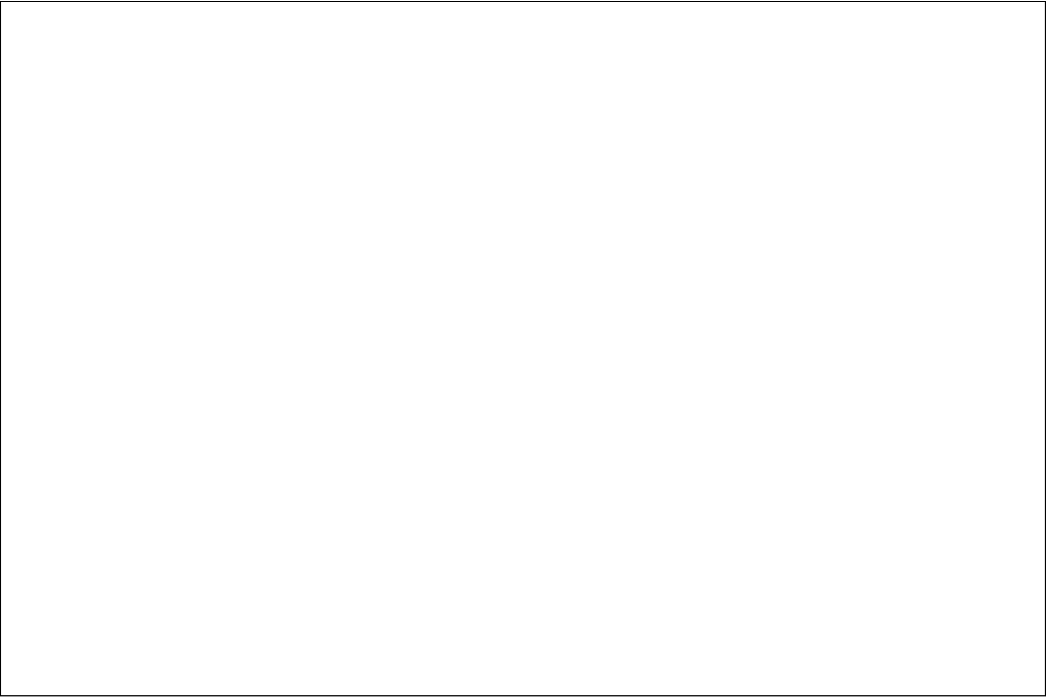
Advances made so far, required significant effort by many to make them happen. Wing engineers, housing office members, their major command counterparts and German architects and engineers were the mules that carried the load. If the wing succeeds, it will be a first for housing in Germany.

Community contributions

Now, wing officials ask Team Eifel members to do their part. The Air Force is committed to improving member quality-of-life. Officials will do the heavy lifting on the big stuff, but they ask community members to help do the small stuff.

Keeping housing areas neat and clean while the work to transform it continues is the first step. As the 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron commander, I'm also the pseudo housing Czar, environmental tree-hugger-in charge and base appearance police chief! I get the "Direct Lines" to answer when housing members complain about trash, noise, dogs and other housing issues.

Every housing resident has the power to make base housing nicer by making a stronger effort to keep the housing areas clean and making sure others do the same. Specifically, members should make an extra effort to pick up trash and clean up after their pets. Residents should ensure little

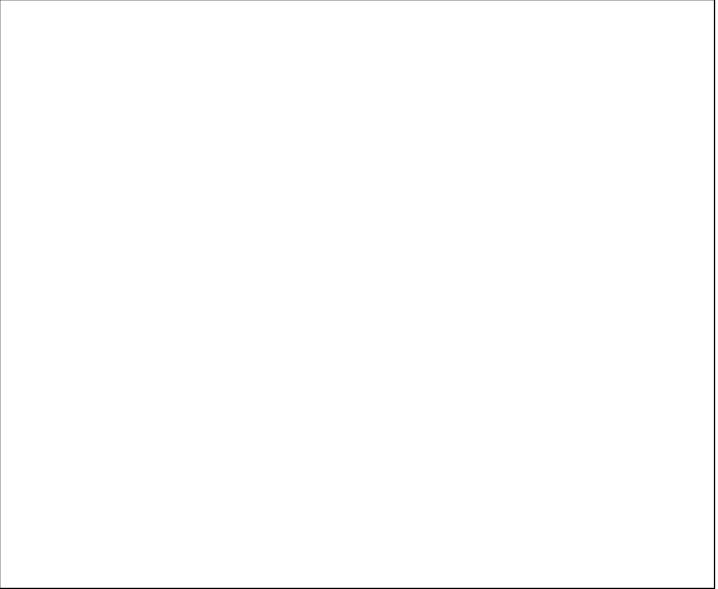


Above, Mrs. Ellen Sutterfield, 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron housing director, digs into Bitburg Annex housing unit 22 March 18. Below, the housing office director, gets last minute bulldozer instructions before tearing into the building. The demolition is in support of Eifel Evolution construction projects.

Johnny or Janie is big enough to put the bag *in* the *correct* dumpster.

Wing members shouldn't let the trash enclosures become "trashed." The wing pays about \$10,000 annually for a contractor drive around and clean up unsightly dumpsters. I'd much rather use that money to do better things for Spangdahlem AB.

With everybody's help, the wing can keep what it has nice, while it works toward big improvements for the future.



Accidents

By John Keeler
52nd Security Forces Squadron Reports and Analysis

Thirty-one Team Eifel members experienced vehicle accidents in the past two weeks, five of which were classified as major.

One accident happened on A-60 between Spangdahlem and Wittlich. An airman reported that he lost control of his vehicle and hit a mile marker on the side of the road in his attempt to regain control. There were no injuries. The airman's vehicle sustained minor damage.

The second accident happened on K-91 between Spangdahlem and Pickliessem. A witness reported a vehicle passed her at a high speed while driving and continued his speed through a curve with on-coming traffic. The witness stated the driver lost control of his vehicle and rolled off the embankment. The driver involved in the accident was transported to the Bitburg Annex hospital for possible neck injuries. The car sustained disabling damage and was towed from the scene.

The third major accident happened on B-50 near Binsfeld. A security forces officer saw a vehicle speeding through a construction zone. The driver's speed was verified by radar. The officer tried to stop the driver, but the driver continued toward Binsfeld. The officer lost sight of the vehicle until he entered Binsfeld where the speeding vehicle hit a brick wall. Wittlich Polizei responded to the scene. Initial reports showed that alcohol may have been a factor in the accident. The airman was taken into custody. The vehicle and wall sustained major damage.

The fourth accident happened while the driver was traveling towards Speicher. The driver reported his vehicle slid on a patch of ice, left the road and rolled twice. The airman was transported to the Bitburg hospital for treatment. The vehicle sustained disabling damage and was towed from the scene.

The fifth accident happened while the driver was traveling east on B-50. A motorcycle rider attempted to take a curve and lost control of his bike and slid into a guardrail. A second motorcycle rider respond-

ed to the situation too late and also crashed. Both riders were transported to a local hospital for treatment. Both bikes sustained disabling damage and were towed from the scene.

The 30 minor accidents include:

- 11 from inattentive driving.
- Eight from backing.
- Eight for speeds too fast for conditions.
- One from wildlife.
- A driver who fled the scene.
- One in a parking lot.

In addition, 81 citations were issued.

Aggressive driving

Aggressive driving is a combination of unsafe and unlawful driving actions that show a conscious and willful disregard for safety. The Virginia Department of Motor Vehicle Web page offers the following facts about aggressive driving.

Crowded roads, rushed drivers, roadwork, everyday stress and dangerous driving attitudes all contribute to aggressive driving habits.

Failing to yield the right of way, tailgating, unsafe lane changes, improper passing and speeding are all typical aggressive driving behaviors.

To prevent becoming an aggressive driver, people should allow plenty of time to get to their destination and plan their journey to avoid rush hours. Listening to traffic and weather reports before taking off can warn drivers of potential delays and hazards.

Improving vehicle comfort by adjusting the interior temperature can help keep tempers from flaring. People should also not drive when they're angry, but if they must, they can listen to soothing music to calm their nerves.

FSC

Continued from Page 1

"I like working with children," said the airman, who found out about the event through his girlfriend, Airman Heather Forrest, 52nd CS photographer, "I want to be a school teacher someday, so this gave me a chance to work with the kids."

Some of the kids under their care arrived in the Spangdahlem Air Base area recently from Turkey.

"We had six hours notice to leave home," said Ms. Shawn Penn-Sironen, a mother of two from Incirlik AB who attended the deployed family day. "It's gone smoother than we expected. Everyone here has been pretty nice."

The day's activities concluded with an outdoor comedy show featuring Hack and Slash, a Shakespearean sword-fighting duo from the Armed Forces Entertainment organization.

The goal is to have deployed family day monthly, Allen said. Some months, however, it may be more practical to roll it into other events, such as April's Month of the Military Child. Regardless of when the event is held, the services offered during deployed family day are always available to support base families.

Eifel Salutes

52nd Maintenance Group

Master Sgt. Greg Krumm ensures our people aren't just winging it. Despite a recent loss of manpower due to deployments, he's kept things in flight operations scheduling up to snuff by training personnel and equipping them with the cutting edge Maintenance Standardization Application Tool. **Staff Sgts. Richard Cole** and **Heidi Butler** have worked with a number of groups and technicians to make sure mal-functions didn't "crash" the party when it came to the base maintenance system. The duo also did much more than "tinker" to help minimize losses from file corruption at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla.

tomers service on short notice without any shortfalls, so it's only fitting we rename them "Prints Valiant!" The postmaster rings at least twice ... **Staff Sgt. Michael Parker** has once again signed, sealed and delivered by aicing a no-notice U.S. Air Forces in Europe postal inspection at Volkel Air Base. The Yost with the most: **Staff Sgt. Kevin Yost** has rightfully earned the Military Volunteer of the Year award for his tireless service to the Volkel community.

Master Sgt. Ken Christenberry is definitely on the ball — consistently juggling tasks with accuracy.

52nd Medical Group
"Hercules! Hercules!" **Staff Sgt. Darryl Brooks** gave

Herculean support to his troops downrange. **Master Sgt. Shawn Rickey** is well-received by all for his expertise and remarkable assistance on personnel retraining issues. "Yanks a lot" to **Airman 1st Class Nancy Cotto** for her concern and kind, compassionate care shown when her co-worker had his wisdom teeth removed. **Lt. Col. Michael Panosian** and **Maj. David Duque** continually inject USAFE with the up-to-date smallpox vaccination implementation procedures. We're goo-goo, gah-gah for all the **family care center nurses** and the **obstetrics clinic providers** who make the Med Group shine. Well done!

Kudos to all, Team Eifel salutes you!

(Compiled by Airman 1st Class Amaani Lyle, 52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office)

52nd Mission Support Group

Our own "Web"utants **Tech. Sgt. Lenn Jensen**, **Staff Sgt. James Cook** and **Airman 1st Class Robert Simpson** have made their debut into Spang society, devoting long hours to restore and rebuild the base Intranet. Way to go! It was cash (card) and carry for **Staff Sgt. Randall Merrihew**, who clearly valued "integrity first" by returning an officer's logged-in card left behind in a base automated teller machine. The honest guy even ensured the card got back to its owner when he learned the officer didn't have transportation that day.

52nd Operations Group

Here it is in black and white, a big salute to DAPS, the department formerly known as "Prints." The staff provides outstanding cus-

Staff Sgt. John Barton
Members of the 52nd Services Squadron Family Member Programs Flight make up this week's Top Saber Team.

Top Saber Team

Unit name: 52nd Services Squadron Family Member Programs Flight
Unit responsibilities: The flight provides full-day and part-day childcare for children ages 6 weeks to 12 years. It also offers a variety of activities for children and teens ages 2 to 18. The team consists of the child development centers, family child care, youth programs and the community center.
Number of members: 121 employees and 30 family child care providers
How does the team fit into the 52nd Fighter Wing's mission? Flight members care for 698 children in three school-age facilities, four child development centers, and 30 family child care homes. This helps military and civilian parents feel assured their children are in a safe, healthy environment while they're at work. Two extended-duty care providers care for the children day and night to allow parents to complete their unit mission. From youth sports and instructional classes to special events and recreational programming, the youth are kept busy with superb guidance and supervision of the respective staffs.

AFAF opens for donations

Team Eifel challenged to meet \$62,516 goal

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — The Air Force Assistance Fund "Commitment to Caring" campaign starts this week. Spangdahlem Air Base's campaign kicked off Monday and runs through April 25. Officials ask airmen to contribute to one or more of four Air Force-related charities through cash, check or payroll deduction.

The charities benefit active-duty, Reserve, Guard and retired Air Force people, surviving spouses, and families. Charities receive 100 percent of AFAF contributions. This is the 30th year of the fund drive.

"Requests for assistance are up more than 13 percent since Sept. 11, 2001, while the investments that fund 70 percent of our programs are down 20 percent," said Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Mike McGinty, Air Force Aid Society's chief executive officer. "In 2002, we helped 34,000 people with \$24.1 million of assistance. That's a lot of help."

Charities under the AFAF umbrella include:

■The Air Force Aid Society, the official charitable organization of the Air Force. It provides airmen and their families with worldwide emergency financial assistance, education assistance and an array of base level community-enhancement programs.

Local family support centers have full details on programs and eligibility requirements. Information is also available online at <http://www.afas.org>.

■The Air Force Enlisted Foundation at Fort Walton Beach, Fla., providing rent subsidy and other support to indigent widows and widowers of retired enlisted people 55 and older. More information is available at <http://www.afenlistedwidows.org>.

■The Air Force Village Indigent Widow's Fund in San Antonio, a life-care community for retired officers, spouses, widows or widowers and family members; includes indigent widows fund for widows and widowers of Air Force officers. The Air Force Villages Web site is at <http://www.airforcevillages.com>.

■The General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation, providing rent and financial assistance to indigent widows and widowers of officers and enlisted people in their own homes and communities. The LeMay Foundation Web site is at <http://www.info@lemayfoundation.org>.

Contributions to the AFAF are tax deductible as an itemized federal deduction. Unit representatives will contact wing members to offer the opportunity to make a contribution. For more information on the AFAF campaign, visit the Air Force Personnel Center's voting and fundraising Web site at <http://www.afpcrandolph.af.mil/votefund>. (Localized)

Top Saber Performer

Name: Capt. Alyson Miller
Unit: 52nd Services Squadron
Duty title: Operations officer
Hometown: Tucson, Ariz.
Years in service: Five
Nominee's contributions to 52nd Fighter Wing mission success: As the squadron operations officer, Capt. Miller coordinates budgets, facility renovations and special projects to ensure exceptional quality of life and customer service for the Spangdahlem community. She provided detailed management as the wing point of contact for the 2003 Commander-in-Chief Installation Excellence Award inspection and played a key part in the 52nd Fighter Wing's nomination as an Air Force finalist, said her supervisor, Lt. Col. Denise Hollywood.

Off-duty volunteerism and professional development pursuits: I'm involved with Trinity Baptist Church and Chapel Navigator ministries, said Capt. Miller. My future plans include squadron officer school and finishing my master's degree in human resources development.

What's a fun thing you've done lately? I went on a spiritual retreat to Switzerland and hiked the Swiss Alps.

What do you like most about being stationed here? This is the first assignment where I have been stationed with my husband. It's just nice to finally be in the same place after nearly two years of being apart.

What's one thing you'd like to see changed or improved at Spangdahlem Air Base? I'd increase involvement in the clubs. From monthly family nights to free-food Fridays, they're the best deal in town.

Staff Sgt. John Barton
Capt. Alyson Miller, 52nd Services Squadron operations officer, is this week's Top Saber Performer.

Deployed spouses should know facts before U.S. return

By Maj. Catherine McLoud
U.S. Air Forces in Europe Accounting and Finance Operations

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany - Because of increased military operations tempo, some deploying military members with dependents may decide to return them to the United States for the duration of their deployment.

Although there is no entitlement for funded travel, members may do so at their own expense. However, there are certain consequences the military member should be aware of before deciding to send dependents stateside for an extended period of time.

People living in military family housing should follow procedures outlined in Air Force Instruction, AFI 32-6001, Family Housing Management, before taking an extended absence from their on-base residence. The AFI states that military members must not leave their home unoccupied for extended periods of time; normally defined as more than 30 days. Any member planning to be absent longer than this should notify the housing office, in writing, which fulfills this responsibility. Residents also have the responsibility of notifying base security forces for patrol purposes.

Members who live on the economy should inform their landlord of the absence and ensure provisions have been made to pay rent and utilities in a timely manner. The member may also want to consider giving someone a special power of attorney to act in their stead in case of an emergency. Base legal offices have programs to help members obtain a powers of attorney and to provide counseling.

Military members who choose to send all of their dependents back to the states for more than 30 days should also be aware of the financial implications. On day 31 of their dependents' departure, their Cost Of Living Allowance will be reduced to be the same as a member without dependents. Additionally, when one or more dependents return to the continental United States for a temporary period, the COLA entitlement starting on the 31st day is reduced to a rate based on the members rank and the number of dependents remaining overseas.

It's the member's responsibility to notify the financial services office and military family housing office. Failure to do so could have a negative impact on pay entitlements. (USAFE News Service)

Base plays host to Incirlik evacuees

Wing agencies, leaders scramble to comfort travel-weary families

By Staff Sgt. Elaine Aviles
39th Wing Public Affairs Office

Spangdahlem Air Base leadership called on the help of nearly every support function on base and dozens of volunteers to play host Thursday to 46 evacuees from Incirlik Air Base, Turkey.

The evacuation was part of a base-wide departure approved by the State Department March 17 due to Operation Iraqi Freedom. While most dependents and civilian workers returned to the United States, several active-duty members and dependents were diverted here for medical reasons.

"I first heard about the evacuation in staff meeting on Wednesday," said Maj. Steve Johnson, 52nd Mission Support Squadron commander. "We were told a couple dozen medical evacuees from Incirlik AB would be heading our way sometime in the near future."

Less than 36 hours later, 23 active-duty pregnant women arrived on base, some with civilian spouses and children in tow.

"We had a day to pull everything together," Major Johnson said. "I got a call at 7 a.m. and was told the evacuees would be arriving that afternoon."

With such short notice, the major had just a few hours to ensure the women and their families would have housing, food, medical attention and child-care.

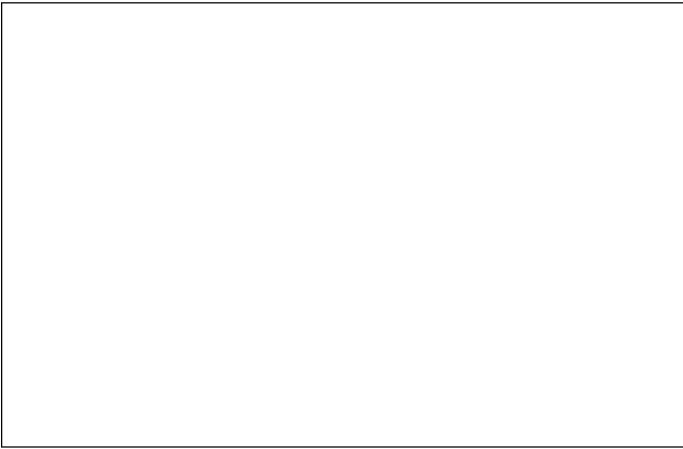
He quickly pulled in experts from every affected functional area on base, including medical, personnel, finance, housing, lodging, transportation, the child development centers and school administration.

"We put together a game plan based on a modified version of our NEO plan," Major Johnson said. "Luckily, we had just practiced a similar scenario in the fall. We just hadn't imagined a scenario with so many pregnant women."

To pull off the operation, aside from support functions, the 52nd MSS commander called on the help of volunteers from every corner of the base.

"I started gathering a pool of volunteers back in December, when we first heard we were being considered as an evacuation site," said Kelly Childs, family support center volunteer program coordinator. "When I heard the evacuees were coming, I fortunately had more than 70 volunteers ready to help. I even had to turn some volunteers away because of the response."

By the time the first wave of evacuees arrived at 5:30 p.m., after a five-hour flight and a three-hour bus ride, they were greeted by a welcoming committee that stretched from the street



Ms. Jane Allen
Military families from Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, enter the Bitburg Annex Family Support Center to attend deployed for a welcome briefing after arriving here March 20.

outside, up the stairway and into the hallway of the family support center.

"It was a total shock," said Staff Sgt. Traci Hughes, an evacuee accompanied by her four children and civilian spouse. "I couldn't look anyone in the eye; I would have started crying. It made me feel extremely special."

The welcome didn't end there. Volunteers opened a playroom for the children; the commissary manager, Ernestina Vasquez, donated more than \$500 worth of food, soda and diapers, and everyone from lodging to the clinic was available to provide assistance. Even the wing commander was on hand to give a personal greeting.

Additionally, a group of airmen from the first term airmen's center came by to ensure the pregnant women wouldn't have to lug heavy suitcases up to their rooms.

"People really pulled together with short notice," Major Johnson said. "This was one of the most amazing examples of teamwork I've seen in my career."

Aside from a few minor glitches, base leaders said they are extremely pleased with the operation.

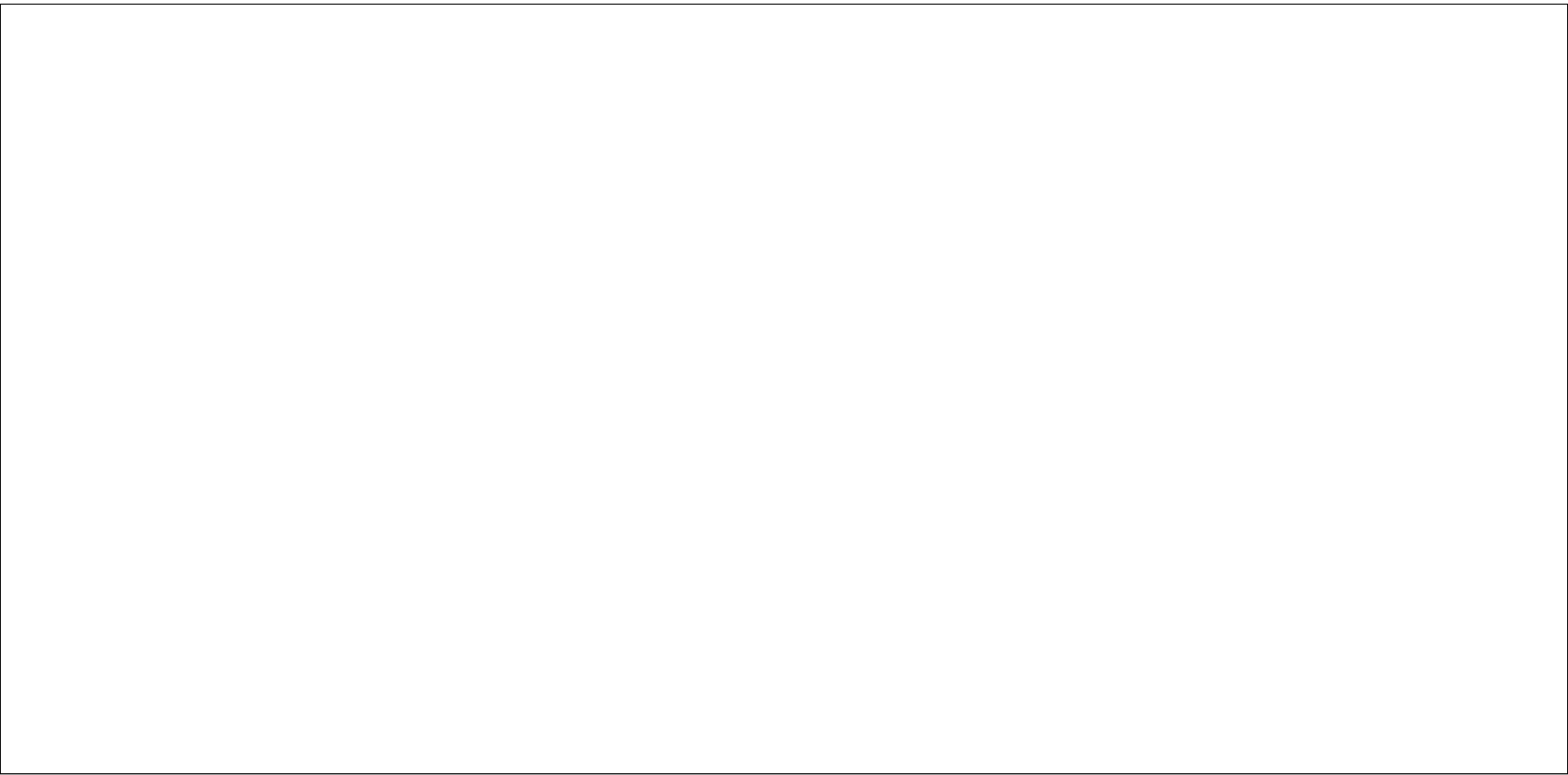
"I think it went really well," Major Johnson said. "We knew the evacuees would be feeling stressed and exhausted so our goal was to make everyone feel welcome and to meet their immediate needs. I think we accomplished that."

Capt. Suzanne Smith, a family practice nurse from Incirlik AB, said Spangdahlem definitely achieved its goal.

"Our reception was absolutely overwhelming," she said. "I was so stressed out, and when we pulled around the corner and saw all those people waiting outside, I felt an enormous sense of relief. It made a stressful situation much more tolerable."

Keep 'em flying
Far left, a 22nd Expeditionary Fighter Squadron jet engine mechanic watches a Spangdahlem Air Base F-16CJ conduct a burner run before flying a mission Monday. The F-16CJ is one of several Spangdahlem AB jets assigned to the forward-deployed air base in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Center top, Staff Sgt. Lynnde Boykin, a 22nd EFS jet engine mechanic, reaches into an F-16 CJ compartment during aircraft maintenance. Center bottom, 22nd EFS maintainers, work on a jet before it took off on a sortie Monday.

Photos by Staff Sgt. Derrick C. Goode



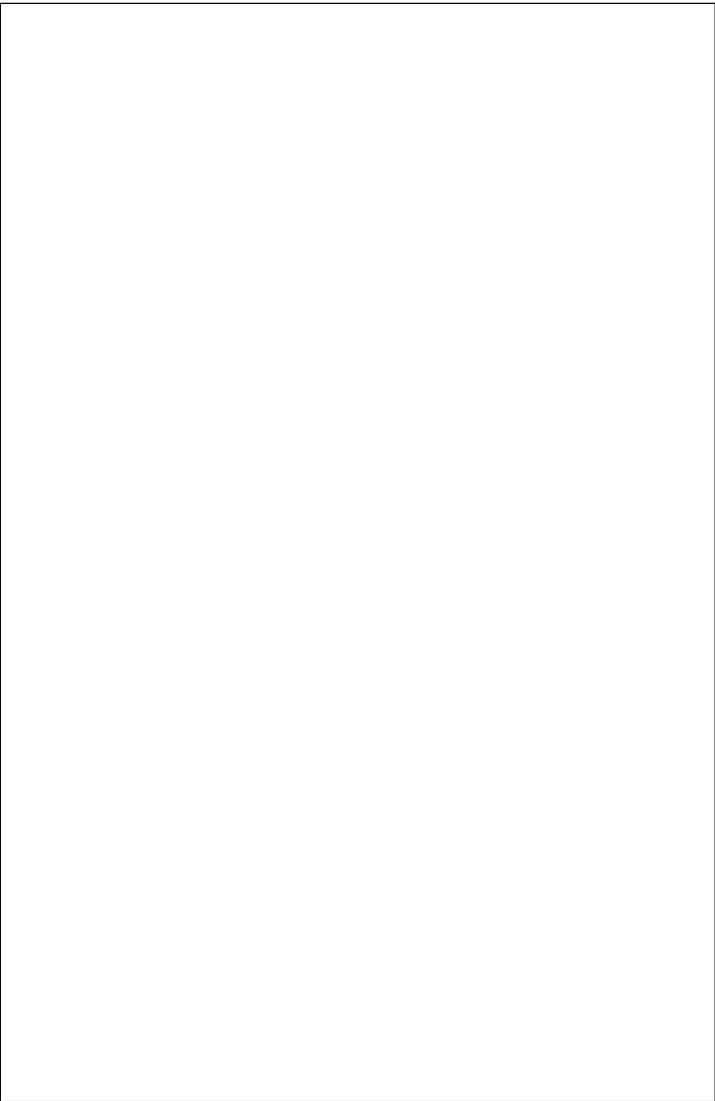
Left, Staff Sgt. Rex Crites, 52nd Security Forces Squadron Military Working Dog handler, and Apoll run the tunnel on the obstacle course behind the MWD kennels on base. Running the course helps the dogs maintain agility through exercise while simulating real-world obstacles, which sharpen the dog's instincts and reflexes.

Photos by Staff Sgt. Tim Cook

Security forces dog teams sniff out trouble

Canines serve as force multipliers for 52nd Security Forces Squadron

The military working dog's ability to detect explosives and narcotics, and overpower fleeing suspects makes these four-legged partners an irreplaceable Air Force asset, according to Staff Sgt. Brent Sanders, 52nd SFS.



Staff Sgt. Crites and Apoll run the catwalk during a training session at the MWD kennels. Military working dogs and their handlers work as a team. They're matched according to their personality, strengths and weaknesses, said Staff Sgt. Brent Sanders, 52nd SFS MWD kennelmaster.



Above, Staff Sgt. Brandon Tillman and Senta prepare to inspect a commercial delivery truck at the base's large vehicle inspection gate. Left, Staff Sgt. Crites and Apoll conduct luggage search training at the MWD kennels. This training teaches the dogs how to detect illegal narcotics and explosive substances that are most often hidden from view. People typically see working dogs on the job examining vehicles at the base entrances. Military working dogs can also be seen using their keen sense of smell to search military family housing units, offices and in base schools.



Left, Staff Sgt. Sanders mock-attacks Apoll's handler, Staff Sgt. Crites, during search training. The exercise is designed to train the military working dog to guard and protect his partner. Above, Apoll stands guard over his handler's "attacker."

Community Mailbox

Pine wood derby

The Boy Scout Pack 161 pine wood derby takes place Saturday at 11 a.m. in the Bitburg Annex main exchange parking lot. Proceeds from hot dog and baked good sales benefit Pack 161 activities.

Rodeo roundup

The tri-border rodeo team meets today at 8 p.m. in Spangdahlem AB building 316. People interested in team activities are encouraged to attend.

Block party

The Spangdahlem Air Base Teen Fun Run, Walk and Roll block party takes place April 19 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Bitburg Middle School. The planning committee seeks individuals, clubs and organizations to perform and set up booths. Call Karen Bradley at 06565-616697 for more information.

CAC news

The following events take place in the base community activity center ballroom, unless noted otherwise. Call 452-7381 for details.

■The chess club meets April 5 from noon to 3 p.m. and the first and third Saturday of each month in the community center ballroom.

■A beginning drawing lessons class takes place April 16, 23, 30 and May 7 from 6-7:30 p.m. Students must bring their own sketch pad and a drawing pencil. Cost is \$40 per person for all four classes.

Saber club news

The following events take place at the Saber club Stripes lounge. Call 452-6090 for more information.

■Movie night, each Tuesday. April is gangster month.

■Karaoke contest each Wednesday from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Members only activity.

■R&B night, each Thursday from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

■Burger burn, each Friday from 5-7 p.m. Free for members, non-members pay \$6.

■Oldie but goodie night, today from 5-9 p.m.

■Spoken word poetry contest, first Wednesday of each month from 8-9:30 p.m.

■Open rap night, Thursday from 7:30-9 p.m.

■Country and western night, April 4 and 25 in the ball room. Free to members, non-members pay \$6.



Airman 1st Class Karolina Gmyrek

SAT savvy

Senior Airman Sherry L. Walkup, 52nd Services Squadron, takes advantage of new SAT software available at the base library to raise her academic test scores for college. The Spangdahlem AB Library offers study guide materials for CLEP testing, ASVABs, GREs, GMATs, self-help books on financial aid and additional software for researching periodicals and journals.

Spang club news

The following events take place at the Spang club. Call 452-7494 for more information. Dining is open to all ranks.

■Taco Tuesdays, each week in April from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

■Southern buffet, each Thursday in April. Cost is \$6.95 per person with a \$1 discount for members.

■Breakfast buffet, April 6, 13 and 27 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

■Mongolian barbecue night, Wednesday and April 16 from 5:30-8 p.m. Cost is \$7.95 for adults, \$3.95 for children under 12. Members receive a \$1 discount.

■Deployed spouses night, April 9 from 5:30-8 p.m.

Library news

The following events take in the Spangdahlem AB library unless otherwise noted. Call for 452-6203 for details.

■Children's storytime for children ages 2-5, each Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. in the Bitburg Annex library.

■Family reading day, April 6 at 2 p.m.

■Writing workshop, April 6 from 1-4 p.m. or April 9 from 5-8 p.m. Published author Monique Lamont offers guidance on how to overcome writer's block and get published.

■Intro to the Internet, April 8 at 6:30 p.m.

■Library tour, April 10 at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

■Storytime for children in grades 1-5, April 11 at 3 p.m. Call 452-9056 for more information.

■The Bitburg Annex reading group discusses Hitler's Niece by Ron Hansen April 29 at 7 p.m.

Auto parts yard

The base's new auto parts yard opens soon. It's located in building 199C, across from the Saber club. Call 452-6842 for details.

School news

Spangdahlem elementary

■Registration for kindergarten students for the next school year takes place in the registration office from 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 1-3:30 p.m. each day. Students must be born between Nov. 1, 1997 and Oct. 31, 1998. Parents should bring a copy of their orders with DEROS after Sept. 2, with dependents listed; student's immunization records, student's passport or birth certificate, and student's social security number. Registration dates are April 7 for last names A-E, April 8 for F-J, April 9 for K-M, April 10 for N-R and April 11 for S-Z.

■Applications for Sure Start, a full day pre-school program modeled after Head Start can be turned into Spangdahlem and Bitburg Elementary Schools after Tuesday and during the summer. Children who will be four years old before October 31, 2003 are eligible. Pick up applications at the registrar's office at either elementary school.

Spangdahlem middle

■School registration takes place April 17-18 from 8 a.m. to noon and 1-3 p.m. Registration packets will be mailed to all sponsors in early April. Parents should bring the packet, child's passport, and child's shot records to registration.

■Principal's chat, Monday at 3 p.m. in room 200. Parents are encouraged to attend and discuss next year's school handbook.

Bitburg elementary

■School registration dates take place 8-11:30 a.m. and 1-3:30 p.m. on the following dates: April 21-25 for last names A-L and April 28-May 2 for M-Z. Parents should visit the main office to register. New kindergartners must be 5-years-old by Oct. 31, 2003.

■The BES Parent, Teacher Association holds family bingo night March 28 from 6-8 p.m. in the school gym. The event features prizes and food. Children must accompany parent or parents to attend. For more information, call Shawna Weeg at 06561-695840.

Bitburg middle

■School officials seek volunteer door monitors to check identification for all adults entering the facility. To reserve a time slot for an hour or two per week, call 452-9332.

Family support news

The following workshops take place in Spangdahlem AB building 307. Call 452-9491 or 452-6422 for details.

■Federal employment, Tuesday at 9 a.m.

■Predeployment briefing, Tuesday at 1p.m.

■Resume writing, Tuesday at 5 p.m.

■German bills made easy, Thursday at 8 a.m.

■Local employment, Thursday at 1 p.m.

■Sponsor training, Thursday at 10 a.m.

■Home buying, Thursday at 6 p.m.

The following workshops take place in Bitburg Annex building 2001.

■Creative critters, Monday at 10 a.m.

■Deployed movie night, Tuesday at 6 p.m.

■Mutual Funds II, Tuesday at 6 p.m.

■Predeployment briefing, Wednesday at 8 a.m.

VEAP to MGIB

U.S. Air Forces in Europe members who converted from VEAP to the MGIB during the last conversion period must pay \$2,700 within 18 months of the day of signing Defense Department Form 2366 to enroll. Call Mr. Hiram Wood at 480-6888 for details.

Cell phone information

Three months before Telekom service cell phone contract expiration, people should make cancellations via facsimile at 01805-330633 or their contract will continue another year and charges will apply. The customer service phone number is 01803-302202.

Der Markt

Free classifieds policy and submission deadlines

Der Markt is for the personal resale of items by military and civilian employees and their families. Items such as advertisements for rental property won't be published due to funded paper restraints. Ads should be 35 words or less and customers are limited to no more than two ads per week. Ads must be typed or printed legibly and turned into the public affairs office, building 23, at least **10 days before the desired date of publication**. Ads can also be e-mailed to publicity@spangdahlem.af.mil or sent via fax to 452-5254. Having ads in by deadline does not guarantee publication. Ads for services generating regular income will not be published. The ads must include the sponsor's name and telephone number. Ads not meeting these requirements, including those exceeding the designated word limits, will not be printed. The *Eifel Times* staff reserves the right to edit ads.

Col. Stephen Mueller

Accessing Direct Line

The Direct Line program is a way to get answers to questions you still have after using your chain of command.

Direct Lines of general interest will be published in the *Eifel Times* and may be edited or paraphrased for brevity or clarity. Submit your Direct Line via:

■DirectLine@spangdahlem.af.mil

■Mailed to 52nd FW/PA, Unit 3680 Box 220, APO AE 09126

■To PA in building 23.

■Concerns may also be sent via fax to 452-5254.

Anonymous inputs are accepted. To receive a personal response you must include your name and phone number. Call the Eifel Times at 452-5244 for more information.

Sortie
Scoreboard

Unit Goal Flown

22FS 64 141
23FS 130 70
81FS 96 99

Sorties flown
March 17-23

(Courtesy of the 52nd Maintenance
Squadron Plans and Scheduling Section)

Viewpoint

March 28, 2003

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As others see it

Stand out, but not as an ‘ugly American’

By Senior Master Sgt. Lisa Kuehn
52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron first sergeant

How often have you picked Americans out in a crowd? It may have been when you heard a familiar English phrase, but just as often, you can typically see Americans coming before you hear them speak.

What is it that so clearly identifies us as Americans and makes us stand out?

I think we Americans, by nature, carry national pride with us. We identify with success. We’re a competitive people who stand tall and proud.

America’s prominence and influence are clearly exhibited as American products and companies search out new markets around the world. We Americans don’t back down from a challenge. We don’t accept less than what we believe is right. We show these beliefs in how we carry ourselves, how we speak and how we act.

But consider for a moment how we, as Americans, are viewed by others around the world. In the history of nations, the United States is still in its infancy, whose existence as a sovereign power goes back only 226 years. Europe has fortresses and churches that have stood since before Columbus ever sailed to the

Americas. Asian temples and monuments have stood for a thousand years. The history of the United States is minuscule when compared to the dynasties of the Far East, the royal houses of

“As citizens of the most powerful nation on earth, we each equally bare the responsibility to represent our nation well. What we say and do reflects not only on us as individuals, but also on Americans in general.”

Europe and the great civilizations of the Mediterranean. Even so, America has emerged as a world leader.

Some of the world’s people may see America as an adolescent upstart whose culture pales in comparison to their country’s vast and powerful history. America has only stood on the world stage since the beginning of the last century when we, at first reluctantly, reached out from our coastal borders to help turn the tide in World War I.

We’re proud of our nation’s wealth, strength

Mission notes

Each military community member plays part in operational security success ... or failure

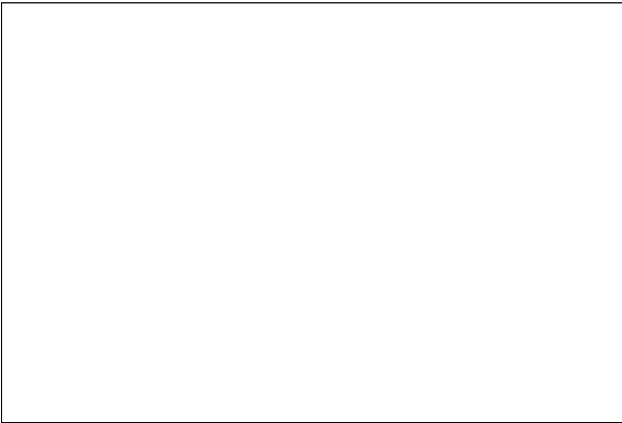
By Ms. Cynthia Bauer
Air Mobility Command Public Affairs Office

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, ILL. — With our nation at war, operations security becomes a vital part of success in battle and force protection at home.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld during a nationally televised press conference on Iraq March 20, concluded his remarks with a strong reminder to those who have access to classified information.

“It’s essential that everyone with access to classified operational details exercise discipline,” said the secretary. “There is no excuse for anyone revealing sensitive information that will almost certainly put the lives of men and women in uniform at risk.”

Although Secretary Rumsfeld pointed to classified information, there is another category of information called critical information that’s also important to protect. It is that information about intentions, capabilities, operations or activities that



could possibly give our adversaries an advantage. Such information may seem insignificant, but when pieced as a puzzle with other bits of information, can reveal important details of ongoing or planned operations.

Capt. Allen Reeves, 67th Information Warfare Flight defensive counter information chief, said the vigilance of family members as well as airmen is necessary to prevent critical information from getting into enemy hands.

“The success of our military mission depends on secrecy and sur-

prise,” he said. “Secrecy and surprise helps us do our mission both more quickly and with less risk. Enemies of freedom want information, and they’re not just targeting our airmen, they’ll target our families, too.”

Every Air Force family has bits and pieces of information about the military mission. Members of the Air Force family must take care not to discuss information outside of their immediate family, Capt. Reeves said.

“Some bits of critical information could include detailed unit mission information, times and locations of deployments, and large numbers of personnel transactions including pay information, powers of attorneys and wills,” he said. “References about unit morale or personnel problems or details about security also fall into

the critical information category.” Reeves said where and how information is discussed is important, too.

“We all need to remember an adversary’s agents tasked with collecting information frequently visit some of the same stores, clubs, recreational areas or even churches as we do,” he said.

Capt. Reeves said agents can also easily collect data from cordless and cellular phones and even baby monitors using inexpensive receivers available from local electronics stores.

His advice for families? “Be alert, be careful! Spies are a reality. Our adversaries gain useful information through their agents. A foreign agent may use a variety of approaches to befriend someone and get sensitive information that can compromise operations and leave the door open for terrorism. If the person you are talking to shows excessive interest in the military affairs of your family member, notify your sponsor, the unit OPSEC program manager of the local Air Force Office of Special

Movies

All movies play at 7 p.m. unless indicated. More synopsis information is available at www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp.

Bitburg Castle

Today

Shanghai Knights (PG-13)

Chon Wang and Roy O'Bannon head to London after Chon's estranged father is murdered by a Chinese rebel. Chon's sister, Lin, also arrives and uncovers a plot to murder the royal family. (Violence and sexual content.)

Saturday

Antwone Fisher (PG-13)

Antwone is ordered to see a Navy psychiatrist to learn to control the anger impulses that cause him to fight with shipmates. His therapy inspires him to seek out the family that abandoned him as a child. (Violence and language.)

Sunday

Pinocchio (G, 4 p.m.)

Pinocchio, a wooden puppet, comes to life and desires to become a real boy. Despite guidance from a fairy and his father Gepetto, his curious spirit leads him into one wild adventure after another.

Shanghai Knights

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Wednesday

Catch Me If You Can (PG-13)

Based on the true story of a young man who lives a life of crime through forgery. An FBI agent is so amazed by the forger's abilities that he works out a deal that gets him out of prison and into the FBI. (Sexual content and language.)

Thursday

Pinocchio

Spangdahlem Skyline

Today

Daredevil (PG-13)

The story of Matt Murdock, a son of a boxer who gets killed by petty criminals for refusing to lose a match. The event drives Murdock to fight crime, despite the fact he is blind. (Violence and sexuality.)

National Security (PG-13, 10 p.m.)

Earl and Hank have only one thing in common — they're both L.A.P.D. rejects. As security guards they uncover a sophisticated smuggling operation. The two unlikely partners just might save the day. (Violence, language and sensuality.)

Saturday

Just Married (PG-13)

Two young newlyweds' "perfect" honeymoon in Venice turns out to be the worst imaginable. (Sexual content, crude humor and drug references.)

Daredevil (10 p.m.)

Sunday

National Security

Monday

Just Married

Tuesday

Daredevil

Closed Wednesday and Thursday

*Times and movies are subject to change.
For the most current information,
call 452-9441.*

Shoppers soak up the sun at Landscheid spring bazaar

A local basket weaver talks about his craft with a spring bazaar customer. Baskets of all sizes and shapes are usually popular items at the annual market.

Story and photo by Ms. Iris Reiff
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

No big plans for the weekend yet? Here's an option where people can have a few hours of local fun. Known as the "pots and pans shopping paradise," the Landscheid community sponsors its annual spring bazaar this weekend at the Eifelland hall.

The in- and outdoor event features more than 100 vendors presenting their merchandise and demonstrating their craft. Visitors will find a wide variety of wares including household goods, clothes and gift items, such as hand-made Easter art,

handcrafts, jewelry, flowers and more. A basket maker demonstrates his works and sells a variety of handmade baskets on the spot.

A raffle takes place at 5 p.m. Sunday. Eifel-region specialty foods, such as cakes and other sweets, are available around the clock. A carousel and toy booth traditionally capture children's eyes.

Market proceeds benefit various charities.

The bazaar is open Saturday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Free parking is available.

Exhibition features "eggs-tra" special gifts

Story and photo by Ms. Iris Reiff
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Easter art is the focus of the Dudeldorf Easter exhibition, taking place now through April 13. Friday through Sunday from 2-6 p.m. visitors can see detailed art works, all relating to the Easter season.

Hand-painted eggs of all sizes and originating from various countries take center stage. Visitors can also find Easter wreaths, bunnies, flower arrangements, baskets and more.

To get there, take B-50 from Spangdahlem Air Base and turn off at the first exit to Dudeldorf. Continue on this road until reaching the entry of the courtyard where the pavilion is located.

Handpainted eggs used to adorn trees, such as these featuring ladybugs and butterflies, are popular European Easter decorations.

Out and About

(Editor's note: Event dates and times are subject to change. To confirm event details, call the telephone information office at 11833 and ask for a number to the tourist office in the town the event takes place. For event tickets, call the Press-Center Trier at 0651-14599-30, the Trier Tourist Information Office at 0651-9780822 or the Trier Ticket Service at 0651-9941188, unless specified otherwise.)

■The Eifel Wanderers meet Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Zum Stein Gasthaus in Metterich. People planning to order dinner should arrive earlier. The next available volksmarch takes place April 27 in Kist-Wurzburg, Germany. Cost is 25 euro for adults and 10 euro for children. Register at least two weeks in advance. Call Theresa Stevens at 06569-963184 or e-mail chatterbox@gruenewald.de for more information about the trip or about the club.

■Flea market take place Sunday near the Landscheid Eifelland hall, in front of the Konz Edeka E center, at the Meren Rasthof on B-421 and in front of the Trier-Zewen Hornbach center.

■An exhibition featuring etchings and prints by the local artist Ursula Hueselwig can be seen now through April 13 at the Bitburg Beda Haus.

■Trier's 1st Honky Tonk live music festival takes place April 5.

■An anniversary concert featuring choirs, bands and dance groups takes place April 5 at 8 p.m. in the Bitburg Beda Haus cultural center.

■A classical piano concert, featuring compositions by Hans Schubert, takes place at April 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the Bitburg Beda Haus cultural center.

■The International Wine and Gourmet festival takes place April 25 through May 25 in Trier and Luxembourg.

■Due to world events, all Information, Tickets and Tours trips are subject to change or cancellation. Each trip is currently evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Call the ITT office at 452-6567 for more information. All outdoor recreation activities are cancelled until further notice.